

### POWERS OF FOREST RANGERS.

A western forest ranger writes to the *Canadian Forestry Journal* commending Mr. E. H. Finlayson's suggestion at the Winnipeg Convention that rangers be given certain judicial powers. This ranger states that often in the far north much more might be done in checking carelessness in the handling of fire, or violation of forest protection laws. The offender may be caught red-handed miles away from any justice of the peace, and the rangers have no power to take the violator before a justice without a summons, which might take weeks to obtain. He suggests that chief rangers, or assistant chief rangers, should have the powers of justices of the peace.

### IS SECOND GROWTH AS GOOD AS THE VIRGIN GROWTH?

Mr. J. D. Howe, of St. John, New Brunswick, writes: 'In the December number of the *Canadian Forestry Journal* the views of the Deputy Minister of Lands and Forests for New Brunswick are given on two papers contributed by Mr. Allen in the issues of October 1st and 15th last of the *Canada Lumberman*. Lieut. Col. Loggie, the Deputy Minister, after agreeing with Mr. Allen on the disposal of brush, etc., regrets that he cannot agree with his statement, "that after virgin growth is cut away quite as good never follows," and adds, "my theory is in lumbering; remove the merchantable log at maturity; let in the air and light, and the same process will rotate, resulting in a bountiful nature supplying as good a log as the virgin one that was cut away."

'The questions may be asked—How much of the forest does the Deputy Minister regard as virgin? Is it only the matured trees? Does he consider the smaller trees younger and as second growth, and that a bountiful nature will continue to supply as good logs as the first? If so, he is laboring under a delusion that many other high authorities in forest treatment are laboring under; a delusion that is laying waste immense areas once covered with fine forests.

'In differing from such high authorities on this question, I feel the gravity in making these assertions, but as Nature's proofs are so convincing, I take the liberty in doing so.

'If the trees in a close stand of virgin spruce forest be carefully examined (large and small) it will be found that they are nearly all the same age, and should all be considered the virgin forest. It is thought by many that the smaller are

younger trees, but examine and be convinced.

'When the largest trees are taken out, letting in the sunlight and air, undoubtedly the smaller will rapidly put on new growth and produce as good logs as the first. This can be repeated or rotated, as it is usually termed, until the first or virgin stand is exhausted. While this process is going on the new or second growth will appear wherever sunlight is allowed to reach the earth by the openings made in removing the virgin growth. This second growth consists chiefly of brush spruce and fir branched to the roots, poplar and other varieties of so-called forest weeds, which give the lumbermen so much trouble, swamping roads (greatly increasing the accumulation of brush) in order to secure the last of the virgin timber.

'No, Mr. Allen's views will be borne out as correct by those who have much to do with lumber getting and using.

'I have dealt more fully with this subject in a paper sent to the *Canadian Forestry Convention* in February, 1912, of which a review was published in the June, 1913, number of the *Canadian Forestry Journal*.

'This phase of Canadian Forestry is one of most vital importance at the present time, and should be carefully and impartially looked into.'

### BUSINESS VISITORS.

Among those who called at the office of the Canadian Forestry Association, in the Journal Building, Ottawa, during the past month, were Mr. R. D. Prettie, Supt. of Forestry for the Canadian Pacific Railway; Mr. H. R. MacMillan, Chief Forester of British Columbia; Mr. E. J. Zavitz, Provincial Forester for Ontario. All of the above are directors of the Association, and Association matters were discussed with the Secretary. Other visitors were: Mr. G. A. B. Krook, Wolseley, Sask., Horticulturist for the Canadian Pacific Railway; Arthur H. Graham, Chief Fire Inspector of the Lower Ottawa Forest Protective Association, and J. H. Grimm, of the Maple Syrup Producers' Association, Montreal.

### A FINE HOLIDAY GROUND.

Nova Scotia is just being discovered by Canadians from other Provinces. It is attracting an increasing number of visitors yearly. Halifax is the centre of attraction, and September is the ideal month. Attend the Convention Sept. 1-4. Help to make it a big success, and see one of the finest parts of Canada.